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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/540,747	06/24/2005	Hiroshi Yanagida	061069-0316399	9710
909	7590	11/13/2006	EXAMINER	
PILLSBURY WINTHROP SHAW PITTMAN, LLP			MAZUMDAR, SONYA	
P.O. BOX 10500			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
MCLEAN, VA 22102			1734	

DATE MAILED: 11/13/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/540,747	YANAGIDA ET AL.	
	Examiner Sonya Mazumdar	Art Unit 1734	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 24 June 2005 and 10 February 2006.
 2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final.
 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4) Claim(s) 1 is/are pending in the application.
 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
 5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
 6) Claim(s) 1 is/are rejected.
 7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
 8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
 10) The drawing(s) filed on 24 June 2005 is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
 Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 a) All b) Some * c) None of:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
 2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
 3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
 Paper No(s)/Mail Date 6/24/05 and 2/10/06.

4) Interview Summary (PTO-413)
 Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
 5) Notice of Informal Patent Application
 6) Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Specification

1. The disclosure is objected to because of the following informalities: the heading on line 6 of page 2 should be changed to “Disclosure of the Invention”.

Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Objections

2. Claim 1 is objected to because of the following informalities: “connecting component” should be changed to “connection component”. Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

3. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

4. Claim 1 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being unpatentable by Goto (US 5,403,431).

Goto teaches a labeler (1) comprising of the following components:

A grip portion (7) and an operating lever (8); both are manually squeezed toward each other and dispense a label (L) from a cassette of labels (2) on a backing strip (B) loaded into the labeler (column 2, lines 51-63). Geared arms (11), sector gears (12), and claw reciprocator (22) are connected to the motion of the operating lever, therefore when a grip portion and an operating lever are squeezed against the force of a spring (9),

a reciprocal motion of claws (18) is produced and is reversed when the grip portion and lever are relaxed (column 4, lines 15-21; Figures 1 and 4).

An operating arm (15), mounted on a shaft (14), linked with a claw arm (17) which is rotatably attached to a shaft (19) of a slider (20) (column 3, lines 55-68; Figure 1). Claws are further biased by a coil spring (23) wound about a shaft (19), so that after claws have engaged with the backing strip and drawn a backing strip to the label length toward the grip portion, the action of the coil springs (23) enables claws to disengage from the backing strip (column 4, lines 22-31).

A deflection pin (32) moving the backing off of the labels to bring a label to a roller (24) arranged at the front tip at a transfer position in which the label is fed from (column 5, lines 63-68; Figure 6).

A slideable change-over member (5) provided on a bottom member (4) to essentially draw, via a claw reciprocator, a backing strip so that labels are peeled off by sharply reversing the direction of travel of the backing strip (column 1, lines 50-55; column 3, lines 7-10; Figure 4).

Stops (6) provided on the change-over member; the stops move together with the change-over member to slide along the bottom member (4) according to the length of the labels (column 3, lines 33-37; Figure 4).

A presser roller (31), where the label passes underneath after paid out from the label cassette (2) (column 4, lines 4-7).

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Sonya Mazumdar whose telephone number is (571) 272-6019. The examiner can normally be reached on 8AM-4:30PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Christopher Fiorilla can be reached on (571) 272-1187. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.


Sonya Mazumdar
SM


CURTIS MAYES
PRIMARY EXAMINER